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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

TOPIC Military Information from the Weisswasser Troop Training Grounds

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DATE PREPARED 11 March 1952

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PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

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1. The following troops and material from Cottbus were detrained at the Weisswasser (O 52/A 74) railroad station and moved to Camp Nochten between 14 and 26 February:

14 February, 8:30 p. m. Eight trucks, 4 x 76.2-mm AT guns and 2 heavy mortars.

15 February, 8:30 p. m. About 10 trucks, 1 field kitchen, 4 x 76.2-mm AT guns, 2 heavy mortars and a small escort detail of soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets.

17 February, 8:30 p. m. 600 to 750 officers and men wearing red-bordered black epaulets and carrying submachine guns, rucksacks and mess kits, 10 AT guns, 2 heavy mortars, 1 field kitchen and 5 trucks.

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19 February, 20:45 p. m. About 30 officers and men, 4 AT guns, 2 heavy mortars, 1 field kitchen, 1 radio truck and 13 trucks.

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26 February, 12:15 p. m. JS tanks Nos 82 and 92, 1 unnumbered T-34/85 tank, 1 T-34 tank chassis, 1 field kitchen and 2 trucks.

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2. Two unnumbered JS tanks from Camp Nochten were entrained at the Weisswasser railroad station during the night of 18 February. Firing practice with live ammunition at the troop training grounds involved 4 JS tanks on 15 February and 4 T-34/85 tanks on 25 February. Camp Nochten quartered an undetermined number of troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets. The number of guards around the camp was substantially increased. Troops were also quartered in recently constructed emergency billets along the firing lane for AT guns. New military billets were also under construction in Camp Nochten proper.

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Comment. Tanks from all military posts of the 9th Mecz Div have been rotated to Weisswasser for firing practice since November 1951.

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